

Five years ago, April 5, 1996, the Federal debt stood at \$5,138,150,000,000, Five trillion, one hundred thirty-eight billion, one hundred fifty million.

Ten years ago, April 5, 1991, the Federal debt stood at \$3,468,754,000,000, Three trillion, four hundred sixty-eight billion, seven hundred fifty-four million.

Twenty-five years ago, April 5, 1976, the Federal debt stood at \$595,781,000,000, Five hundred ninety-five billion, seven hundred eighty-one million, which reflects a debt increase of more than \$5 trillion, \$5,176,742,327,634.26, Five trillion, one hundred seventy-six billion, seven hundred forty-two million, three hundred twenty-seven thousand, six hundred thirty-four dollars and twenty-six cents during the past 25 years.

#### ANIMAL DISEASE RISK ASSESSMENT, PREVENTION, AND CONTROL ACT

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President I rise today as one of the proud co-sponsors of the Animal Disease Risk Assessment, Prevention, and Control Act of 2001.

This bill will go a long way toward offering the American public and producers the vital information necessary to begin to understand the economic impacts associated with Hoof and Mouth Disease and Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE). The risks associated with these diseases to the public health will also be reviewed.

In the United States, we take great pride and have worked diligently to maintain healthy herds. We have spent years creating our breeding programs and ensuring the animals we produce are the finest in the world. This bill will help ensure that effort will not be jeopardized.

We need to create a solid unified front to ensure that all the information available on these diseases is readily accessible. This bill will not only make that knowledge available, it will provide Congress with the information necessary to move forward quickly with any other type of action that is required. This bill will provide an important tool that will allow us to continue producing the safest meat supply in the world.

I look forward to working with Senators HATCH and HARKIN on this very important piece of legislation.

#### RETIRED PAY RESTORATION ACT

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I rise today in support of S. 170, the Retired Pay Restoration Act of 2001.

S. 170 permits retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability to receive both military retired pay by reasons of their years of military service and disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability.

Currently, a retired military member will have his or her retirement pay off-

set dollar for dollar when they receive disability compensation from the Veterans Administration. This law is 110 years old and it is long overdue for change.

The military retirement pay is earned over one's career for longevity, while the VA disability compensation is for a different reason altogether—sustaining an injury while in the service. These are two completely separate issues and military members have suffered over the years by having their retirement pay reduced. The Retired Pay Restoration Act of 2001 will correct this deficiency.

We owe our freedom to those who wore our country's military uniforms. We must honor our commitment to those who served in the military. This year is the time to overturn the provision in the 110 year-old law that prohibits military retirees from receiving concurrent receipt of full military retirement pay along with VA disability compensation. Entitling these people to receive both retirement pay and disability compensation without any deduction is the right thing to do. It is not a hand out; it is something they deserve and earned for serving our country honorably.

I encourage my colleagues to support S. 170.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### DEATH OF JOHN C. HOYT OF MONTANA

• Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to make note of the recent death of a great man and fellow Montanan.

Montana lost one of its proudest native sons on Monday, March 26, 2001. John Hoyt died at the Benefis Hospital in Great Falls, during a heart attack catheterization procedure. He was 78.

In Shelby, June 28, 1922, a fascinating and adventurous and truly incredible life began. John's parents had come to Shelby from Iowa. The family's background was in farming and ranching. John's father, a lawyer, raised his family in Shelby during the Great Depression. John spent summers back in Iowa, during the hard times, without modern equipment, without air-conditioning and using a real pitchfork to gather hay in the field and pitch it into the hay mow for the winter. All who knew John, knew those thick hands and fingers of his proved he was no stranger to hard physical work.

John began his college career, on scholarship, at Drake University in Iowa. But, by his own admission, "too much fun" brought that educational experience to an end. Perhaps that was meant to be, because leaving Drake brought John home to Montana, and the University in Missoula, a place where his heart and his loyalty and his support never again left. A true Grizzly is now at rest. But his presence will be forever felt on that campus and in the

stadium in Box 102B down on the north end. John will still be cheering on his beloved Grizzlies. He might even give Coach Glenn "a great play" from wherever John is watching!

World War II broke out while John was in undergraduate school at the U of M. The day after Pearl Harbor he joined the Air Force. His eyesight was not good enough to allow him to be the fighter pilot he aspired to be. He proudly became a navigator on a B-24 as a Second Lieutenant. In August of 1944, on a mission between Italy and Vienna, in a fierce air battle involving hundreds of airplanes, John's was shot down by German fighters. The bomber, named the Jolly Roger, spiraled to the ground and only John and one other were able to escape. The spiral carried the other crew to their deaths, and John was captured and was in a P.O.W. camp for most of a year before the army of General George Patton liberated him and many of his comrades.

John finished his education after the war. He graduated from the University of Montana Law School in 1948. For the past fifty-three years John Hoyt stamped Montana legal history, beginning in Shelby, typing his own oil field title reports with five sheets of carbon paper, and then centering his practice out of Great Falls and becoming one of the most creative and innovative and persuasive trial lawyers in Montana's history.

John was so proud of the many talented lawyers he practiced with. It was recently stated by legal pundits that while it was not required to have practiced with John Hoyt to sit on the Montana Supreme Court, it did not hurt.

John's current firm, Hoyt and Blewett, is one of the most prominent in Montana. He and his partner, Zander Blewett, have represented Montanans with pride and dignity, and his clashes with the Burlington Northern led to a memento in his office portraying the Burlington Northern logo and inscribed, for John, with the words, "Any Time is Train Time"!

John had a lifelong passion for agriculture, and established one of the most noted Black Angus ranches in America, the Jolly Roger. He named it after his former comrades in World War II. In the 1990's two bulls that he developed and raised, Juice and Uncle Jim, became important leaders in carcass quality traits throughout the beef industry. Ironically, John's last yearling bull sale was just last Wednesday, March 21. His bull sold to all areas of Montana, several states, and into Canada.

John Hoyt was a gentleman. He had acquaintances that ranged from the most humble to the most powerful of his fellow citizens. All were equally valued by John as friends. He was an outdoorsman who trained hunting dogs and loved bird hunting. His fishing trips that he led friends on in Alaska were, at the very least, memorable. His wit and enthusiasm and his energy